A Iuſt and True REMONSTRANCE OF HIS MAIESTIES *MINES-ROYALL* IN THE PRINCIPALITY OF WALES.

Preſented

By *Thomas Buſhell* Eſquire, *Farmer of the ſaid* Mines-Royall *to his Majeſtie.*

Printed at London by *E·G.* 1641.

¶ *Cum privilegio.*

Moſt high and mighty Soveraigne,

WHereas *Your Majeſty* was graciouſly pleaſed not onely to command my ſervice to be imployed in your Highneſſe *Mines Royall*, upon occaſion of ſome diſcourſe of them at *Enſton-Rock*, when your Majeſty vouchſafed to honour that place with your preſence: but alſo to give your Majeſty a true relation, what they were when I entred upon them, what they are ſince at preſent, and of what hope for the future, if diligently purſued and cheriſht by your Royall aſpect. In obedience whereunto, I do in all humility affirme, that the *Mines* at my firſt entrance were drown'd with water, and conſequently not worth the working *as by ſeverall certificates hereunto annexed appeareth*, which did then much diſencourage my undertakings: but conſidering my deepe engagements for your Majeſties, many favours extended to me, the meaneſt of your Subjects, I conceaved my ſelfe obliged to adventure upon the undermining of the adjacent Mountaines, thereby forthwith to make triall, whether thoſe *Mines* (if once diſcovered at the ſurface of the earth) would not prove richer in their deeper ſearch, for experimenting whereof, having received ſeverall opinions from the beſt Mineral-maſters of our age, as Sir *Francis Godolphin*, M. *Alexander Roberts*, M. *Ioſeph Hexſteter*, and M. *Walter Barksby*, with divers others well practiſed in that way, encouraging me therein; I then reſolved to hazzard my fortune on them, aſſuring my ſelf that all *Minerals* were to be diſcovered by ſome one or other. Becauſe originally created for mans uſe, and Gods glory: and thus having ſetled my former irreſolute

thoughts, I began with a cheerefull heart to cut through the maine Rockes of five ſeverall mountaines, at their loweſt levell, appearing by the Art of Dialling to be ſome ſixtie, ſome eightie, and ſome an hundred fathomes perpendicular, and ſo continued theſe battery-workes foure yeares, night and day, before my hopes could give me any happie aſſurance that the *Mineral-beds* of the earths riches, lay faſt lock'd in thoſe barren Rocks, untill my charge grew ſo great, that I became pitied of my friends, and inſulted over by my enemies, which did anew perplex my minde; yet when I conſidered that I was not borne for my ſelfe, but for the ſervice of God, your Majeſtie, and my Countrie, and that I had not only that heavenly guider to direct me, but alſo your ſacred Majeſtie to encourage me, I then began to caſt off theſe my former juſtly conceived feares, and (notwithſtanding any oppoſition or ſeeming diſwaſive arguments or experiments by any other) to pitch on this reſolution, that *better it were for mee to ſuffer ſhipwracke in my poore eſtate and credit, then that ſuch treaſures ſhould lye buried in the BOWELS of thoſe vaſt mountaines*, and not be made both knowne, and beneficiall to your gracious Majeſtie, being inherent to your prerogative, as by the declaration under the hands of learned Councell hereunto annexed appeares, which hils although large in extent, yet are not conſiderable in herbage, nor fit for any other plough, then the Miners ſledge, gad, and twybill.

That which firſt wrought in me a deſire to try and fathome thoſe mines was a ſenſible diſcourſe delivered me, by a *Portugall* in preſence of Sir *Francis Godolphin* (by whoſe death I loſt the hope of a moſt knowing partner) who had beene for many yeares imployed under the King of *Spain* in his *Weſt Indian Mines* purporting that if his Maſter were

Soveraine

Soveraine Lord of thoſe Brittiſh hils, as is your *Majeſtie*, he would not doubt but to make them a ſecond *Indies*, and affirming with deepe proteſtations, that the greateſt riches in thoſe Mountaines lay in their loweſt levels, which I finde to be true by laborious experiment, in thoſe five mountaines. For by this way of working, and driving through the depth of Rocks, we are not only freed from the danger and deluge of waters, but alſo have diſcovered an increaſe of rich veines in quantity and qualitie, ſome containing twentie pound, ſome fifteene, ſome tenne, and ſome ſix in Silver, in the Tunne of Lead upon the great *Teſt*, which are anſwerable to moſt of the Mines, of the King of *Spaine*, the Emperour of *Germany*, and the Duke of *Saxony*; moreover we find that by mixing and ſmelting theſe ſeverall veines together, the one proves a good additament to the other, and becomes thereby a meanes to advance the *Mines* Royall, and in them the good of your kingdome and Subjects.

We have many gracious teſtimonies how much the Almighty is pleaſed with theſe our innocent labours; by his continuall preſervation, of the workemen amidſt their hourely dangers, eſpecially in one accident, which lately befell, upon occaſion of driving an Addit into one of thoſe mountaines called *Tallybont*, but becauſe I was no eye-witneſſe of it, I humbly deſire your majeſties peruſall of the narration thereof (as I received it) being then in London, from a miniſter reſident Preacher to the *Minerall* men, hereunto annexed.

And as I am bound to give to *Cæſar* that which is *Cæſars*, I muſt further humbly acknowledge your Majeſties large addition to your former Royall favours in granting mee (the meaneſt of your Creatures) liberty to give your Majeſties impreſſion to ſuch Silver as the Mole-like Miners caſt

caſt out of the Earth, for their ſpeedier payment, for they are the men who make the rocks their reſting place, and expect no other reward or benefit for their ſweaty browes then what they gaine from out of the darke Cavernes of the earth by harmeleſſe and importunate labour.

And for declaration of part of my poore indeavours, your humbleſt ſuppliant begs a peruſall of the annexed remonſtrance, preſented by your honourable and grave miniſters of Juſtice, and other noble Gentlemen of quality, reſiding within your Principality of *Wales*, whoſe eyes have beene ſpectatators, as your ſervant, a diligent labourer in thoſe *Minerall Vineyards*. And having thus far traced out, & dived into the ſecrets of natures treaſures, & by the influence of your majeſties favours, overcome thoſe amazing difficulties, which hindred the entrance of theſe great adventures, (I then for better improvement of the workes, cauſed a meeting of *Miners*, *Monyers*, *ſmelters and refiners*, to conſult debate and try, whether fuell of turfe would not ſeparate the Oare, extract the ſilver, & reduce the Litharge, as well as the vaſt expence of whoſe Forreſts of Woods formerly conſumed for that purpoſe; and upon an exact triall made thereof, by altering the earthy ſubſtance of Turfe into charkie cyndars, we found by infallible experience, that Your *Majeſties* Turffaries will furniſh Your *Mines Royall* with Fuell to all future ages. So that there remaineth nothing more to make the inſide of theſe barren Mountains, produce an addition of gems to your Crowne, but to finiſh the building of your Princely foundation by your Royall recommendation thereof to your High Court of Parliament, whoſe judgements, will quickly diſcerne how much theſe *Mines* would redound to the generall good; Your Maieſties gracious letters having already cauſed ſundry Merchants, and Gentlemen

men of quality, to take a perſonall view of the harmleſſe gaine, which accrewes from this publike work of the *Mines Royall*, as a maenes to inrich Your ſubiects the ancient *Britaines* of thoſe parts, with the free trade, & vent of their *Home-made-Cloth*, & to employ & enable them to become Merchant-adventurers, as well byland as Sea. And for manifeſt proofe of my proceedings in this buſineſſe, I ſhall with Your Royall aſſent, humbly deſire a commiſſion from the High Court of Parliament, to examine the former and preſent ſtate of the *Mines Royall*, and Your Maieſties riches that are buried under the moſt inconſiderable herbage, of theſe vaſt Mountaines, which in time may alter the name of *Welch Rockes* into *Welch Indies*, and make it plainly appeare to any (who is not meerely of an earthly, and avaritious temper, and can in any meaſure reſent the nouriſher and true ſupport of a flouriſhing State, that they, (if followed) cannot but prove flowers to the Crowne, a glory to the kingdome, and a rich bleſſing to the ſubiect.

Be pleaſed therefore moſt gracious Soveraigne, to vouchſafe that the beames of Your Royall favour, may cheriſh the growth of this hopefull deſigne, ſo as it be not blaſted in the bud, and then my affectionate endeavours prove as fruitleſſe to this Common wealth, as was the neglected tender of *Columbus* his diſcovery of the *Weſt-Indian-Mines* in the raigne of *Henry* the ſeaventh.

And to make it in ſome meaſure appeare to your *Maieſty*, how deſirous I am to advance your revenew in an imployment ſo much conducing to the publick good, I doe in all humbleneſſe offer (as an increaſe of rent after the expiration of the Lady *Middletons* Leaſe aſſigned to me and yet in being) one thouſand pounds by the yeere for and during the continuance of another leaſe thereof granted to me in reverſion, for confirmation of which

leaſes

leaſes by your *Ma*jeſtie, and your High Court of Parliament, I do further humbly preſent 1000 *Ma*rkes as a preſine to your *Ma*jeſties Privie Purſe; over and above the benefit of your *Ma*jeſties *M*intage, the increaſe of ſhiping, and the importation of neceſſary commodities, occaſioned hereby, which as I am informed by *M*erchants of good worth that drive the trade, will amount to 4000 li. *per annum*. And for grant of the cuſtome of exportation of ſuch Lead only, out of which the ſilver is refined, I will (ſo it pleaſe your *Ma*jeſtie) be bound to double the yeerely Revenew of the Farmers booke, according to a medium, of ſeaven yeares caſt up for that Port of *Dovy*: your *Ma*jeſtie having not from any former undertaker, or Farmour of thoſe *M*ines, ever received either fine or penny of rent, all which I ſubmiſſively propoſe, & deſire the rather, to encourage my Coadventurers, who as they were firſt invited by Your Princely letters of aſſurance, ſo will they now (things being thus honourably ſetled) be moſt willing to expoſe their fortunes, for the conſummating of ſo advantagious, ſo honourable, and ſo publick a good worke.

Having thus made to your *Ma*jeſty a true relation of the ſtate of your *M*ines Royall in Wales, and a faithfull explication of my loyall intendments & of other *M*inerall mens opinions conceived of thoſe *Mines*, I profeſſe before God and your ſacred *Ma*jeſtie, that I therein, have no other ends, then the glory of my *M*aker, the honour of your *M*ajeſtie, & the good of my Country. Let me therefore on a bended knee humbly implore your Soveraigne goodneſſe, not only to peruſe theſe Petitions, and Certificats annexed, but alſo to pardon the conſtrained prolixity of

Your Majeſties moſt humble
and devoted ſervant
Thomas *B*uſhell.

The declaration of learned Lawyers what a MINE-ROYALL is, according to former presidents.

ALthough the Gold or Silver contained in the base mettall of a mine, in the lands of a Subject, be of lesse valew then the baser Metall, yet if the Gold or Silver doe countervaile the charge of the refining, or be of more worth then the base Mettall spent in refining it, this is a *Mine-Royall*, and as well the base Mettall, as the Gold and Silver in it, belong by prerogative to the Crowne,

Sir. *Ralph Whitfeld.* His *Majesties* Serjeant at Law
Sir *Ed. Harbert.* Att. Gen.
Oliver Saint Johns. Sollic.
John Glandvill. Serjeant.
John Wilde. Sejeant.
Rich. Creswell. Serjeant.
Or. Bridgman the Pr. Sol.
Robert Holborne. Esq.
John Herne, Esq.
Edward Bagshaw. Esq.
Thomas Lane. Esq.
Richard King. Esq.
Edmond Prideaux. Esq.
John Maynard. Esq.
Edward Hide. Esq.

Esquiers.

John Glyn.
Charles Fulwood.
Harbottle Grimston.
John White.
George Peard.
John Francklin.
Richard Weston.
John Glover.
William Ellis.
Thomas Culpeper.
John Goodwin.
William Sanford.
John George.
James Haward.

To the Kings moſt excellent Majeſtie.

The humble Petition of THOMAS BVSHELL Your Majeſties ſervant.

Moſt humbly ſheweth,

THAT whereas your Royall Father of ever bleſſed memory, who was truly ſtiled the King of Peace, and mirror of mercy to the ſparing of life and bloud, was graciouſly pleaſed for ſaving the lives of ſuch malefactors, as were condemned to death by the Law for petty fellonies, being ſuch as were not any ſcandall to the Church or State, nor had imbrewed their hands in blood, to admit their tranſportation to the Eaſt India, and Virginia Companies, for furtherance of their plantations. In which action doubtleſſe hee did alſo caſt his eyes upon the warrantable proceedings and preſidents of other moſt famous Princes in the like kind, as the late Queene ELIZABETH, who built certaine Gallies of purpoſe for

for imployment of ſuch kind of offenders, of ſtrong and able bodies, as might attend her memorable deſignes at Sea, eſpecially upon all ſuddaine and reſolute enterprizes; it being the uſuall courſe of other Chriſtian Princes, as the King of Spaine, both for the ſupply of his Gallies againſt the Turkes, and Moores, and eſpecially for the enlargement of his Indian Mines of Gold, Silver, Quickſilver, and the like, and his conqueſts of *Mollocco*, *Goa*, *Ormus*, and other rich and populous Ilands. The King of France for his Gallies at *Marſeilles*. The State of *Venice*. The Duke of *Florence*, who by ſuch kind of ſaved offendors built *Legorne* (one of the moſt famous Sea-ports within the Straits.) In all which States and ſervices, divers of theſe malefactors by good incouragements have ſought not ſo much by ſurviving, as by their incredible labours, effecting matters, otherwiſe held invincible, to obliterate their former ignominies by merit of rewards. And whereas in this your Majeſties populous Kingdome, too many ſuch offendors are moſt untimely cut off in their beſt abilities of ſervice, ſo is there within the pale of this Your Kingdome, and without any occaſion of Sea, or forreine ſervice, meanes of imployment for ſuch perſons, to redeeme their loſt reputation, by endeavouring to doe faithfull ſervice for their Countries honour, and the Kingdomes good, in that happy worke, begun by Your Sacred Majeſty, for the better diſcovery of Your

Silver Mines. His moſt humble ſuite therefore is that you would bee pleaſed out of all theſe weighty conſiderations and beneficiall conſequences, tending ſo much to your Honour, Crowne and Dignity, and good of the Common-wealth, to grant Your Majeſties Commiſſion, (if it may bee thought fit by the adviſe of Your High and Honourable Court of Parliament) for the chooſing of ſuch ſeverall perſons out of the priſons in this your Kingdome, as are, and ſhall be condemned for ſmall offences, and of able ſerviceable bodies, by the approbation of Your Judges, and ſhall implore Your Majeſties mercy to bee imployed by your ſaid ſubject in the Works of your Mines Royall, they giving ſecurity for their good behaviour, with ſuch limitation of time, and allowance for their ſuſtentation; as to Your Majeſties ſaid High Court of Parliament ſhall be thought fit, that by their dutifull and laborious performance therein, they may afterwards come into the happineſſe of your Majeſties pardon of Grace for their former offences.

And your Petitioner ſhall ever reſt, &c.

To the Kings most excellent MAIESTY.

Most Gracious SOVERAIGNE,

THE Loyalty of my faithfull ſervice, will not ſuffer me to conceale a bequeathed Legacy to your Majeſty *by the laſt Will and Teſtament of your moſt Loyall Subject* IOHN Biſhop *of* Worceſter *lately deceaſed of a treaſure diſcovered by him, and committed to my truſt, for the revealing thereof to your* Majeſty.

Who perceiving the inclination, and affection I had to Mynes, and Mineralls *much commending it, as the moſt honeſt gaine, and greateſt good to a Common-wealth, began this enſuing diſcourſe unto me.*

Mr. BVSHELL,

YOur owne eyes ſee how neare I am to the dwelling of death, by my gray hayres which are the true Records of foureſcore and foureteene yeares of age, next my limbs which have no more ſtrength, then thoſe that are lap't in the Sepulchre of their winding-ſheet, only my intellectuall parts are yet preſerved, to aſcribe God the glory, and

to

to diſcloſe the ſecrets of two rich Mines, the one holding ſome quantity of Gold, worth the Extracting, the other in Silver worth the Refining; to your truſt and fidelity, with a confidence that your charity cannot conceive me guilty, of betraying your judgement with an imaginary treaſure, when my ſoule and body are ſo neare the approach of death, as I muſt ſuddainly give an account in the other world, beſides I have taken upon me, the calling of a ſpirituall profeſſion, And have this day, received the Sacrament, as a pledge of my redemption, which I truſt are ſufficient motives, to beleeve truth from a dying mans tongue, who hath no other end, then that the hopefullnes of ſuch riches, may not be buried by my diſſolution, but that the honour and profit thereof might redownd to his *Majeſty*, and his Royall poſterity, as a living and loyall remembrance of his Princely favours to me and mine.

And thereupon he did enjoyn me upon the integrity of my allegiance, to conſecrate the firſt fruits of my labours therein, as his diſcovery and ſervice to your ſacred ſelfe: and thus having made a true relation of his diſcourſe to me, I leave it to your *Majeſties* wiſdome to approve or diſlike.

Your MAIESTIES

moſt humble Servant

THOMAS BVSHELL

To the moſt Illuſtrious PRINCE *CHARLES* Prince of Wales.

Moſt High and Mighty PRINCE,

AS the ſmaller Rivulets by their naturall motions make haſte to pay their tribute unto the vaſt Ocean, as well as doe the greateſt rivers: So come I with humble aſſurance, that your Highneſſe will not deſpiſe this poore preſent, extracted out of your *Welſh* Mines, wiſhing the coyne could ſpeak that language of *Ophir*, as it doth this of *Cardigan*, wherein I truſt by Divine Providence, and your Princely prevailing with the moſt honourable Court of Parliament, for the confirmation thereof; I doubt not but that in proceſſe of time, I ſhall be able with

with the assistance of my Coadventurers, and helpe of their greater purse and fortunes : to make these Brittish hills, as in scituation, so in esteeme too, resemble the West Indies, or at least wise those renowned mines of Saxony.

Thus I most humbly take leave of your Highnesse, hoping your Princely goodnesse will pardon my presuming to present so great a Prince, with so poore a present, as doth in all humblenesse.

Your Highnesse devoted Beadsman,

THOMAS BVSHELL.

To our dread Soveraigne Lord The KINGS moſt Excellent MAJESTY.

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

WEE doe moſt humbly and thankfully acknowledge, that by Your Majeſties vouchſafing to this your Principality the truſt of a branch of Your Royall Mint, is an honour that neither our Anceſtors nor our ſelves durſt wiſh for; and we doe as humbly and as thankfully acknowledge and confeſſe, that by it you have not onely honoured us more, then any of Your Royall predeceſſors; but you have thereby offered us the means to enrich our ſelves, to the making of us happier then our fa-

thers; in freeing us from the cares and feares that hindred us from driving into these Mountaines that promise a masse of treasure. For be pleased to know, that before Your Majesty vouchsafed unto us this great favour, we were fearefull to adventure far into the mountaines, because wee had far to send before wee could make the silver currant, that wee should at charge recover. Nor was our care of carriage and recarriage the least hinderance to our proceedings, from all which by Your Majesties goodnesse, and the endeavours of Your industrious and faithfull servant *Thomas Bushell*, we are happily freed; for which favour, we whose names are hereunto subscribed in the behalfe of all the inhabitants of this your Principality of WALES, doe render all humble and hearty thanks, and for them, and our selves, doe hereby promise to Your sacred Majesty, that we will doe our utmost endeavours, to finde out that measure, which we beleeve God and Nature from the Creation hath preserved

for

for Your Majeſties uſe; that thereby wee may approve our ſelves Your Majeſties loyall and moſt obedient Subjects and humble Servants,

Thomas Milward Knight, Chiefe Iuſtice of *Cheſter*.
Marmaduke LLoyd Knight.
Richard Price K. Baronet.
James Price Knight.
Sampſon Enre Knight.
Iohn Lewis Knight.
Timothy Turnor Eſquire.
I. Littleton Eſq.
Walter LLoyd Eſq.
Thomas Price Eſq.
Robert Corbet Eſq.
Evan Gwin Eſq.
Morgan Herbert Eſq.
Iohn Vaughan Eſq.
Vincent Corbet Eſq.
Humfrey Greene Eſq.
Iohn LLoyd Eſq.
David LLoyd ap Reignald Eſq.
Thomas Phillips Eſq.
Iohn Edmund Eſq.
Hugh LLoyd Gentlem.
David Rees Gent.
Iohn Bowen Gent.
William Watkin Gent.
Iohn Meredith Gent.
Iames Kegitt Gent.

A Certificate from the *Miners*, preſented to the Right Honourable, the Lords and other of his Majeſties moſt Honourable Privy COVNCELL.

May it pleaſe your Lordſhips,

ACCORDING to your commands, We whoſe names are under written, being *Miners*, *Smelters*, *Refiners*, *Carryers*, *Waſhers*, and *Monyers* belonging to his Majeſties *Mines Royall*, in the County of *Cardigan*, in all humility doe certifie of our certain knowledge and experience, concerning the new workes lately diſcovered by Gods providence to *Thomas Buſhell* Eſquire, Farmer of his Majeſties *Mines-Royall* in theſe parts, that the ſaid Maſter *Buſhell* at his ineſtimable charge, having cut ſix hundred Fathome through the Rock at the loweſt levels, North and South, for diſcovering the loſt veyne of *Cum-ſum* lock, lying Eaſt and Weſt, two hundred Fathome through the Mountaine of *Tallybont*, at ſixty Fathome perpendicular, three ſeverall *Addits* at *Koginean*, one above another, twenty, and thirty Fathome center, another at the *Darren*, to come under the *Romans* worke, at an hundred Fathome center, another at *Bryn-LLoyd* fifty Fathom in length, and thirty Fathome Center, work-

ing day and night for the Drayning of the water, which formerly in the time of Cuſtomer *Smith*, and Sr. *Hugh Middleton* in their working of the *Mines-royal* was never uſed, they only working upon the Superficies of the Earth, the workes being drowned with water before they could ſinke to the beſt of the veyne, both for quantity and quality, and ſo the charge made to exceed the benefit, which danger is pevented by the aforeſaid *Addits*, and the *Royall Mines* become more hopefull, eſpecially by the aſſiſtance of his Majeſties mint, for the ſpeedy payment of all thoſe that are imployed in the ſaid works, and *Mr. Buſhels* own invention to ſave Wood, by reducing the Ore into Lead, and Silver, with Turffe and Sea-cole Charked, which happy invention had it not been found out, the works muſt needs have been left unwrought, the Country not able to have ſupplyed neceſſary Fewell. And further by the prohibition of tranſporting Ore unwrought, that holdeth ſilver worth the refining, which uncontrol'd liberty of tranſporting formerly, His *Majeſty* in his Princely wiſdome ſaw to bee very prejudiciall, even to the utter overthrow of his *Mines Royall*.

We have therfore great reaſon to be confident that his way of working, with the reſtraint of tranſporting Ore, wil in ſhort time greatly increaſe the Bullion of this Kingdome, for the honour of the King, and good of the Common-wealth, together with the employment of many hundred poore people, which would be otherwiſe an unſupportable burthen to this barren Country, who by their preſent labour

in

in theſe *Mines* are able to ſubſiſt with their Fami- andthouſands more might be daylie ſet on work if *Mr. Buſhells* undertakings in the *Mines Royall* may be confirmed for a certaine time by this preſent High Court of Parliament.

Miners.

David Fowles.
William Raſhly.
Henry Cockler.
David Bebb.
Joſeph Jefferies.
George Turner.
Robert Lowning.
Thomas Fletcher.
David Evans.
George Dixon.
Hugh Maſon.
David ap Richard.
David Loyd.
David Williams.
Henry Emblin.
Maurice Taylor.
John Emblin.
Edward Reece.
Hugh Reece.
William Davids.
George Scotſmer.
Thomas Brickhead
Will. Griffith.
Peter Baltiſer.
Francis Pierce.
Maurice Lewis.
Peter Edriſer.
Edward Blewys.
Rob. Emblin.
Rob. Tailor.
David Iinkins.
Ioſeph Acherſon.
Tho. Blewys.
Michael Sanders.
Morgan Williams.
Tho Clocker.
Tho. Greene.
Barthol. Clocker.
Francis Fiſher.
Hugh Benn.
John Maſon.
George Tickle.
John Maſon.
Iohn Fiſher.
Edmund Poole.
Edw. Bebb.
Iohn Maſon ſen.
Will. Ficharett.

Evan Thomas.
Iohn Harru.
Will. Tyſon.
Watkin Reece.
Iohn Smith.
Morgan Pritchet.
Griffith Iohn.
Will. Reece.
Iohn Tuddar.
Iohn Huſon.
Phillip Benn.
Thomas Iames.

With two Hundred more, whom for brevity we omit to name.

Moniers.

Henry Such.
Iohn Corbet.
Richard Arnold.

Refiners.

Iohn Eſtopp.
David Eſtopp.
Samuell Iohnſon.
William Sturgeon.
Thomas Parker.
Arthur Eliſſa.

Smelters.

Thomas Botham.
Hugh Iames.
Griffith Evans.
Iohn Watkin.
Iinkin Owen.
Iohn Epſlie.
Iohn Evans.
Iohn Lewes.
Iames Meredith.

Waſhers.

Iohn Wringe.
Morgan Iohn Lewis.
Davy Iohn.
Iohn Iinkins.
Morgan Griff. Iohn
Edmund Symons.
Reece Morgan.
Charles Williams.
Thomas Adams.

TO THE RIGHT HONOVRABLE the LORDS and others of His MAIESTIES most Honourable *Privy Councell.*

ACcording to Your Honours command wee have enquired and considered how the *Mines-Royall* were left to Master *Bushell* by the Lady *Middleton*, and doe in all humility declare, that the silver mines were not worth the working, untill Master *Bushell* at his great charge discovered Rich Ore in the adjacent mountaines, which in all likelihood will both increase the Bullion, & by his way of working, in short time give his Majesty a true tryall what the invaluable riches of these His *Welsh* mountaines are: for whereas the Mines in these parts were formerly wrought by Pumpes, and so growing deepe were left drowned with water, M. *Bushell* cuts through the maine Rockes, at the lowest levell, to an hundred fathome perpendicular, according to the German manner of working, which though chargeable, yet certaine, having foure severall Addits which hee continueth driving day and night into foure severall mountaines, his industry also hath

outſtript former times, for by melting the poore fuſible Ore, with the Rich, he produceth a third part more of ſilver with the ſame charge: and for accommodating the workes with all materials fit for *Mines Royall*, he hath ſpared no coſt about repairing the milles, hath alſo built in his Majeſties Caſtle of *Aberyſtwith* a faire mint, hath contracted with merchants of our owne and other Nations to ſupply the peoples neceſſity with Corne and other proviſions, and payeth the miners and carriers at the Scales, and doubteth not to make them able Pyoners, and fit ſouldiers to doe His Majeſty and their Country ſervice upon any aſſault of an enemy. All which we commend to Your Honourable conſideration, praying, &c.

Your Lordſhips humbly to be commanded,

Joſeph Hexſteter, chiefe Steward of the Mines.
Samuel Reyniſh, *Water Barkesby*, } Aſſay Maſters of the Mint.
Humphrey Owen, Clarke of the Mines.

DIE SABBATI

14. *Aug.* 1641.

WHereas this Houſe hath beene informed, that *Thomas Buſhell* Eſquire, undertaker of His MAIESTIES Mines-Royall in the County of *Cardigan*, by his great charge and induſtry in cutting Addits hath gained His MAIESTIES old drowned and forſaken workes of *Tallybont*, and other workes. And made new diſcoveries of Royall mines there, which are already very conſiderable. And whereas divers perſons of quality encouraged by His MAIESTIES Letters to them directed, doe intend to adventure great ſummes of money in the ſaid workes, which in time (if well incouraged) may prove of great Conſequence, both for Honour and Profit to His MAIESTY and the Kingdome. And whereas alſo it appeareth unto this Houſe by divers Affidavits and Certificats of credit that ſome perſons ill affected to theſe Honourable and Publike ſervices who in time may receive deſerved

punishments, have disturbed the possession of the said *Thomas Bushell* in some of His MAIESTIES Mines-Royall, and Edifices appertaining to the Royall workes. And have plucked up divers plumps cast in the Rubbish, drowned, and (so much as in them did lie) destroyed the said works, so as it hath beene a labour of foure yeeres night and day to recover the same. And that also the said *Thomas Bushell* hath beene disturbed in the getting of Turfe and Peate for the service of His MAIESTIES workes, being an invention of his owne, very commendable and commodious for the preserving of Wood, which hath been heretofore by the former undertakers much wasted in those parts. Now for the remedy of the said mischiefes, and that the said *Thomas Bushell* and his Assignes, and such persons as are or shall be Undertakers and Adventurers with him in the said Services, may receive all due Incouragement and Assistance in those Chargeable undertakings. It is ordered by the LORDS in the Upper House of *Parliament* now assembled. That the *Speaker* of this House, in the Name, and by the Authority of the same, shall direct His Letters unto the Iudges of Assize, and Iustices of the Peace of the said County of *Cardigan*: Requiring them, that they doe in all lawfull things endeavour to advance, and encourage the said service in His MAIESTIES Royall Mines, and assist the said *Thomas Bushell* and other Undertakers, in all things so farre as lawfully they may, both for the con-

continuance of his lawfull Poſſeſſions, and the quiet and peaceable working of the ſaid mines, untill he ſhall be evicted by due courſe of Law, as alſo for getting and working of Turfe and Peate, according to his Legall right upon his MAIESTIES Waſts, and other places lawfull, and all other lawfull accommodations of neceſſary paſſages, and other Legall things, which may any waies advance His MAIESTIES ſervice in the ſaid Royall mines.

JO. BROVVNE, *Cler. Parliament.*

A letter from the L. KEEPER to the Iuſtices of Aſſiſe, &c.

AFter my very hearty Commendations, I have here incloſed ſent you an Order made in the Houſe of the Lords *now aſſembled in* Parliament, *which you are carefully to obſerve and performe according to the directions thereof in all things, ſo far as Lawfully you may. So not doubting of your readineſſe therein, I bid you heartily farewell, and reſt*

Exceſter-houſe 26. *Aug.* 1641.

Your very loving friend

ED. LITTLETON
Cuſt. Sig.

A letter to Mr. *Bushell*, relating some strange accidents, which happened in the MINES.

Honoured Sir,

SVffer my congratulations of your late ſucceſſe at Tallibont, *to be admitted amongſt the reſt who have repreſented the ſame to your imagination: not ſo much for the hiſtoricall report of it, as for ſpeculation on it; ſo it becomes my quality, for the reſt are intereſſed, I a looker on. Your* Addit *or great drift of* Talybont, *after above* 200 *fathome in foure yeers driving to come at the chiefe ſhaft of the old drown'd worke of* 38 *fathome deep, being pearced by the water of the old worke,* Iune 27. *at midnight there befell two memorable accidents. The foure workmen about one in the night (as their manner was) withdrew to take Tobaco within ten fathome of the* Addits *mouth, leſt in the forefield it ſhould damp the ayre, which was conveyed to them by your leaden pipes with bellows. Their ſmoakie banquet was not yet at an end, when they heard a mighty and fearefull noiſe, which ſome of them ſaid was thunder. But old* Bartholmew Clocker (*a well experienced* Miner) *although he left the worke without any ſuſpition of ſo neere an approach, reſolved ſuddenly, the worke is holed, come let us away. No ſooner had they gotten the free ayre, but out guſheth the torrent of water with an incredible fury, ſuch a breach it made in the ſolid Rocke, that it aroſe a full yards height at the* Addits *mouth and drove away above* 100 *Tun*

of

of the rockie deads, affrighting the people of Talybont, who heard the noise and felt the water in their houses. I doe not remember that I was ever more astonish'd at the prodigiousnesse of any spectacle, to see what perdition was threatned to the poore men, and they so to escape it. About foure houres after, the violence of water being past, Fisher one other of the Miners went in with more curiosity than wit, to see what effect it had wrought there: and being some sixty fathome in creeping very low, his candle enkindled a vapour, which came on him with three or foure flashes, and he suddenly returning had his haire burnt off, and his cloathes scorched, in which conclusion it gave a cruck like the report of a peece, and in a fierce gust of wind blew out the Candles of three more comming after him. To omit the Philosophicall inquisition of naturall causes, I account his preservation in as high a degree of wonder as the first. Thus happy are you here when least you think of it, for I finde the subterranean spirits, the supposed guardians of concealed treasure, as officious for you as if they were in pay with you. But in a stile more proper to my pen, Behold Sir, how deare you are to providence, which for your sake hath vouchsafed to digresse into a miracle, and such a one as is able to convert the most Sophisticall Atheist, whence your piety will inferre, that the gracious Authour of this incomparable bounty, expects from you some gratefull service, as high above ordinary (according to mortall capacity) as this favour hath been extraordinary. We are all deepely in the same engagement, and have learned by this experiment, that these Addits or approaches (for what the sence of the name of old deluge works) are attempts of desperate hazzard. Me thinks these Mountaines are as so many pregnant wombs, and now in labour call for your fortunate hands to deliver them, to the honour of your Royall Master, and perpetuated glory of the Nation.

What

What ſhould you doubt in an imployment ſo ſerenely ſmil'd upon, by the higheſt both of Heaven *and* Earth? *You uſe no enchantment or magneticall Rod to diſcover the veines; your only magicke is an ingenuous conjecture of probabilities, with a cheerfull and indefatigable induſtry, which hath hitherto ſucceeded beyond expectation of moſt, and (peradventure) the deſires of ſome. But who (as* Agricola *makes the queſtion) that is not of a nature impoyſon'd with envy, and malitiouſneſſe, can beare unfriendly thoughts to him, whoſe ſubſtance is in a manner preſented by the hand of God.* Lib. 1. de R.M.

I know it would be a motive of very feeble operation to tell you how Princes and States have raiſed their Crownes, by deſcending into ſuch abyſſeſſes as theſe; with ſome of whom wanton antiquity hath been pleaſed to ſport her ſelfe, and to play upon the ſimplicity of many, as Midas, Gyges, *the* Argonauts, Cræſus, *with the States of* Athens, *over whoſe Minerals was that renowned* Thucydides *a* Præfect, *as you are here. Of which* Pliny *delivers what may be worthy your attention, when he ſaies of them, that they were in a fruitleſſe ſoyle, and on the hils, (as theſe with us.) And whereſoever one veine was found, it was not far from another; among which was one called* Bebelo, *that afforded him* 300. *pound weight of Silver a day.*

Theſe were then the veines which conveyed the blood and ſpirit of life through all the limmes of his victorious Hoſt. And have you not here our Britaines Aſturia *before you? Who knowes whether it may not yeeld a* Bebelo? *at leaſt a* Sneberg *or* Anneberg, *who hath heretofore dream't of a Mine at* Comſomloch, *or of the happy lot you lately drew from the Mountaines of* Keginian, Talybont, *the* Darren, Broom-Floyd *and* Cum-mervin? *What did the outſide of theſe promiſe you more then the countenances of their neighbours? But*

the complaint of learned D^r. Jurdan *may here take place, that much ſilver was loſt, for want of taking it out of Lead-Oares. For whereas thoſe Oares which are rich in ſilver are commonly hard of fuſion, our minerall men neglect thoſe Oares. No doubt many are concealed by reaſon they are Mines Royall.*

Where had been the Woods and Forreſts yet undeſtroyed on theſe bald-headed Promontories that might ſuffice had you not taught the earth to afford you all, and the worthleſſe valley, to meete the barren hill, by ſending in fewell, to give forme to the matter: ſo that here is a rich bequeſt you leave to poſterity, I meane your Eternizing the works, by preventing the exceſſe of water, and defect of fire. I have no more, but to ſignifie my confidence, that as your deſires are ſet on the materiall Rocks of Wales *and* Enſtone, *ſo will your better affections be firmely grounded upon the Rock* Chriſt Jeſus, *that no tempeſt may be able to ſhake you, when the Sandy projects of other will be laved to nothing by the floods they are built upon. Which will give more comfort and ſatisfaction to you then can be expreſſed by your*

True Friend and Servant,

Julii 4. 1641.

THO. BRODWAY.

An answer to Mr. *Broadwaies* LETTER.

M. Broadway,

YOur true relation, and lively expreſſion of the miraculous delivery of the poore Miners from the deluge of Waters, which iſſued forth, upon the cutting through of *Tallybont* mountaine, ſeemeth by the contents of your Letter to promiſe no other reward, to the firſt diſcoverers, then imminent danger of preſent death, in which, as in all things, we muſt aſcribe the glory to God alone, and as the children of Iſrael were to meet with many hard accidents in thoſe deſarts, ſo muſt we reſolve to encounter with many bitter ſtormes before we can diſcover Natures riches hidden in thoſe mountaines, and who can expreſſe my ſufferings, priſing my reputation above life or fortunes? For fame flying with the wings of malice, deſirous to put a period to theſe my harmleſſe endeavours, hath made as you partly know, my ſuppoſed friends, to become my profeſſed Foes, and my neereſt in blood, my greateſt ſorrow, leaving me as naked, as was *Job* in his greateſt affliction, ſome conſtruing theſe my *Minerall adventures* to be but the fabricke of a fantaſticke braine, others alledging that the greatneſſe of my charge would ruine both me, and thoſe who gave me credit, whereby thoſe friends that conferred on me timely curteſies, inſtead of en-

creasing, or continuing them, were moved to presse me for more speedy paymẽt, then my present abilities were able to make good. What throes of sorrow perplext my midnight thoughts in these deepe ingagements, I leave to you to judge. I will therefore hasten my comming downe, to settle the affaires of this great worke, that I might redeeme the mispent time of my youth by some memorable designe in my age, the hopefulnesse whereof you are pleased so to amplifie, which I trust will give livelyhood to many, injury to none, and be of much honour to our Nation, which was ever the height of my ambition, resolving to rest content with whatsoever the wise disposer of all should conferre upon me, and hereafter to leave those friends in trust, whom I found firmest, thereby both to pay themselves, and satisfie others, to whom I stand engaged. And thus with many thanks for your kind letter, and good counsell, I shall ever remaine

Your faithfull friend,

THO. BUSHELL.